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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C. P.O. BOX 8910 RESTON, VA 20195			CHAU, COREY P	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2644	

DATE MAILED: 11/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/646,734

Applicant(s)

MOELLER ET AL.

Examiner

Corey P. Chau

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– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 August 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 and 30-50 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 and 30-50 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 45 is objected to because of the following informalities: on line 3, recites "said control component being responsive to **at least at least**", should be replaced with "said control component being responsive to **at least**". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-12, 14-27, and 30-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4319088 to Orfield in view of U.S. Patent No. 5406634 to Anderson et al. (hereafter as Anderson).
4. Regarding Claim 1, Orfield discloses a sound masking system for controlling the ambient noise level in a physical environment (abstract), said sound masking system comprising:
 - (a) a communication network spanning at least a portion of said physical environment (Figs. 3 and 4);
 - (b) a plurality of sound masking units, at least one of said sound masking units including a sound masking component for generating a sound masking output signal

and said sound masking units including a communication interface for coupling said sound masking units to said communication network (Fig. 1, 2, and 4-6).

Orfield does not expressly disclose receiving and transmitting control signals over said communication network; and a control unit, said control unit having a network interface for coupling said control unit to said communication network for transmitting control signals over said communication network to said sound masking units, and said control signals including signals for selectively controlling the operation of said sound masking units.

Anderson discloses an intelligent speaker unit for speaker system network comprising a plurality of speaker units including a communication interface for coupling said speaker units (i.e. sound masking units) to said communication network for receiving and transmitting control signals over said communication network (Fig. 1; column 3, lines 56-62); and a control unit, said control unit having a network interface for coupling said control unit to said communication network for transmitting control signals over said communication network to said speaker units (i.e. sound masking units), and said control signals including signals for selectively controlling the operation of said sound masking units (Fig. 1; column 2, lines 55-64; column 3, lines 33-62) in order to allow an operator to remotely control the plurality of speaker units, which provide ease of adjusting a plurality of parameters such as volume, speaker equalization, and sound delay at a desired time; to receive status and/or control information from the speaker unit; and to provide more flexibility in a speaker system network by allowing an operator to transmit a message to only selected speakers in a

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network, or in multiple networks or zones, rather than all speakers in a network or zone. Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Orfield with the teaching of Anderson to utilize a intelligent speaker unit for use in a speaker network system (such as the speaker network system of Orfield) comprising: a control unit to transmit control data (audio data does not need to be transmitted to the speaker unit because the speaker unit of Orfield comprising a sound generator which provide an audio data to a digital signal processor) to a plurality of intelligent speaker units (i.e. sound masking units), wherein the intelligent speaker unit comprising a receiver for receiving the control data and a transmitter for transmitting status and/or control information from the sound masking unit to the control unit in order to allow an operator to remotely control the plurality of speaker units, which provide ease of adjusting a plurality of parameters such as volume, speaker equalization, and sound delay at a desired time; to receive status and/or control information from the speaker unit; and to provide more flexibility in a speaker system network by allowing an operator to transmit a message to only selected speakers in a network, or in multiple networks or zones, rather than all speakers in a network or zone. Therefore, Orfield as modified does not need to make adjustments through potentiometers, which are on the sound masking unit located in the ceiling, it can be adjusted by utilizing the control unit which allow an operator to make adjustments remotely to only the selected sound masking units in the network, or in multiple networks or zones, rather than all speakers in a network or zone.

5. Regarding Claim 2, Orfield as modified discloses said communication interface comprises an address component for recognizing control signals intended for the sound masking unit associated with said address component (Anderson, abstract; column 4, lines 47-57).
6. Regarding Claim 3, Orfield as modified discloses said control unit includes an address generator for assigning addresses to said sound masking units (Anderson, abstract; column 4, lines 47-57).
7. Regarding Claim 4, Orfield as modified discloses said address generator comprises a component for generating a logical address for each of said sound masking units, and said logical address being derived from an identifier associated with each of said sound masking units (Anderson, abstract; column 4, lines 47-57).
8. Regarding Claim 5, Orfield as modified discloses said sound masking unit includes a control component, said control component being responsive to at least one of said control signals for controlling characteristics of said sound masking output signal (Anderson, abstract; Figs. 2 and 7; column 3, lines 56-62).
9. Regarding Claim 6, Orfield as modified discloses said controllable characteristics of said sound masking output signal include a variable contour characteristic (Anderson, Fig. 4; column 2, lines 55-64).
10. Regarding Claim 7, Orfield as modified discloses said controllable characteristics of said sound masking output signal include a variable gain characteristic (Anderson, Fig.4; column 2, lines 55-64).

11. Regarding Claim 8, Orfield as modified discloses said controllable characteristics of said sound masking output signal include a variable frequency characteristic (Anderson, Fig. 4; column 2, lines 55-64).
12. Regarding Claim 9, Orfield as modified discloses said controllable characteristics of said sound masking output signal include a paging volume characteristic (Orfield, column 3, lines 23-55; Anderson, Fig. 4; column 2, lines 55-64).
13. Regarding Claim 10, Orfield as modified discloses a computer (Anderson, Fig. 1; column 3, lines 33-48), and said control unit having a communication interface for receiving adjustment signals from said computer (Anderson, Fig. 1), and said control unit including a component for converting said adjustment signals into control signals for controlling characteristics of said sound masking output signal (Anderson, Fig. 1; column 3, lines 33-48; column 5, lines 1-11).
14. Regarding Claim 11, Orfield as modified discloses sound masking units include an equalizer for adjusting spectral characteristics of said sound masking output signal in response to a spectral control signal (Anderson, Figs. 4 and 5; column 2, lines 55-64).
15. Regarding Claim 12, Orfield as modified discloses spectrum analyzers which provide a graphic analysis of amplitudes within various frequency ranges of the audible spectrum (Orfield, column 5, lines 13-28; column 6, lines 10-41) and a computer (Anderson, Fig. 1), but does not expressly disclose said computer includes a component for receiving sound level readings for the physical environment and a component for generating an equalizer adjustment signal derived from said sound level

readings, and said control unit being responsive to said equalizer adjustment signal for generating said spectral control signal.

Anderson discloses a computer performing the processing need to output control signals (i.e. adjustment signal) that are transmitted remotely to the speaker unit, which provides ease of adjusting a plurality of parameters to obtain the desired output at a desired time. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Orfield as modified with the teaching of Anderson to incorporate the spectrum analyzer (i.e. sound level readings) in the computer, wherein the computer will process the information from the frequency analyzer in order to make adjustments needed to obtain the desired output with more precision, wherein the computer provides control signals to the sound masking unit remotely and without having to plot the spectrum analysis on blueprint and manually adjust the potentiometer on the sound masking unit located in the ceiling, which provides ease of adjusting a plurality of parameters to obtain the desired output at a desired time. Therefore Orfield as modified discloses said computer includes a component for receiving sound level readings for the physical environment and a component for generating an equalizer adjustment signal derived from said sound level readings, and said control unit being responsive to said equalizer adjustment signal for generating said spectral control signal (Orfield, column 5, lines 13-28; column 6, lines 10-41; Anderson, Fig. 1; column 3, lines 33-48).

16. Regarding Claim 14, Orfield as modified discloses said control unit comprises a computer (Anderson, Fig. 1), and said computer including a component for receiving

sound level readings for the physical environment and a component for generating a spectrum adjustment command in response to said sound level readings, and said computer transmitting said spectrum adjustment command to one or more of said sound masking units for adjusting the spectrum of said sound masking signal (Orfield, column 5, lines 13-28; column 6, lines 10-41; Anderson, abstract; Fig. 1; column 3, lines 33-48).

17. Regarding Claim 15, Orfield as modified discloses said computer includes a component for receiving sound level readings for the physical environment and a component for generating a volume level adjustment signal and said control unit being responsive to said volume level adjustment signal for adjusting the volume of said sound masking signal (Orfield, column 5, lines 13-28; column 6, lines 10-41; Anderson, abstract; Fig. 1; column 3, lines 33-48).

18. Regarding Claim 16, Orfield as modified discloses said computer includes a component for receiving sound level readings for the physical environment and a component for generating a paging volume adjustment signal and said control unit being responsive to said paging volume adjustment signal for adjusting the paging volume (Orfield, column 5, lines 13-28; column 6, lines 10-41; Anderson, abstract; Fig. 1; column 3, lines 33-48).

19. Regarding Claim 17, Orfield as modified a paging component (column 4, lines 42-53), but does not expressly discloses said paging component comprising a plurality of input ports for receiving a plurality of paging signals, and a selector coupled to said input ports for selecting one or more of said paging signals and a routing component for

routing said selected paging signals over said communication network and one or more of said sound masking units inputting one of said selected paging signals for announcement in response to a control command received from said control unit.

However, the Examiner takes Official Notice that it would have been obvious to provide a paging component (column 4, lines 42-53) comprising a plurality of input ports for receiving a plurality of paging signals, and a selector coupled to said input ports for selecting one or more of said paging signals in order to provide the system with the flexibility of receiving one of a plurality of input signals from a variety of input devices, for example a microphone, a remote microphone, or telephone and to utilize a selector to provide one of the plurality of input signals as a paging signal to the desired sound masking units. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Orfield as modified to utilize a paging component comprising a plurality of input ports for receiving a plurality of paging signals, and a selector coupled to said input ports for selecting one or more of said paging signals in order to provide the system with the flexibility of receiving one of a plurality of input signals from a variety of input devices, for example a microphone, a remote microphone, or telephone and to utilize a selector to provide one of the plurality of input signals as a paging signal to the desired sound masking units.

20. All elements of Claim 18 are comprehended by Claims 1 and 17. Claim 18 is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claims 1 and 17.

21. Claim 19 is essentially similar to Claim 17 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claim 17.

22. Regarding Claim 20, Orfield discloses a sound masking system for shaping the ambient noise level in a physical environment, the sound masking system comprises:

a communication network spanning at least a portion of said physical environment (Figs. 3 and 4);

a plurality of sound masking units, at least one of said sound masking units including a sound masking circuit for generating a sound masking output signal for shaping the ambient noise level in the vicinity of each of said sound masking units (Figs. 1-2 and 4-6);

a communication interface for coupling said sound masking units to said communication network (Figs. 1-2 and 4-6);and

said sound masking circuit comprises a random noise generating component for generating an incoherent signal output (Figs. 1-2 and 4-6)

Orfield does not expressly discloses a programmable controller for controlling operation of said sound masking circuit and said programmable controller being coupled to said communication network for receiving control signals from said communication network for altering the operation of said sound masking circuit; a control unit, said control unit having a network interface for coupling said control unit to said communication network for transmitting control signals over said communication network to said sound masking units, and said control signals including signals for controlling the operation of at least one of said sound masking units; an equalizer component for receiving the incoherent signal output and generating an incoherent signal output with a predetermined contour, and an output amplifier for amplifying said

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contour incoherent signal output, and said programmable controller including a component for altering the contour of said incoherent signal output in response to a control command from said control unit.

Anderson discloses an intelligent speaker unit for speaker system network comprising a plurality of speaker units including a communication interface for coupling said speaker units (i.e. sound masking units) to said communication network for receiving and transmitting control signals over said communication network (Fig. 1; column 3, lines 56-62); a programmable controller (Figs. 2 and 7) for controlling operation of said sound masking circuit (Fig. 5) and said programmable controller being coupled to said communication network for receiving control signals from said communication network for altering the operation of said sound masking circuit (Fig. 1-2 and 7); a control unit, said control unit having a network interface for coupling said control unit to said communication network for transmitting control signals over said communication network to said sound masking units, and said control signals including signals for controlling the operation of at least one of said sound masking units (abstract; Fig. 1; column 2, lines 55-64; column 3, lines 33-62) in order to allow an operator to remotely control the plurality of speaker units, which provide ease of adjusting a plurality of parameters such as volume, speaker equalization, and sound delay at a desired time; to receive status and/or control information from the speaker unit; and to provide more flexibility in a speaker system network by allowing an operator to transmit a message to only selected speakers in a network, or in multiple networks or zones, rather than all speakers in a network or zone. Therefore it would have been

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obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Orfield with the teaching of Anderson to utilize a intelligent speaker unit for use in a speaker network system (such as the speaker network system of Orfield) comprising: a control unit to transmit control data (audio data does not need to be transmitted to the speaker unit because the speaker unit of Orfield comprising a sound generator which provide an audio data to a digital signal processor) to a plurality of intelligent speaker units (i.e. sound masking units), wherein the intelligent speaker unit comprising a receiver for receiving the control data and a transmitter for transmitting status and/or control information from the sound masking unit to the control unit; and a programmable controller (Figs. 2 and 7) for controlling operation of said sound masking circuit and said programmable controller being coupled to said communication network for receiving control signals from said communication network for altering the operation of said sound masking circuit in order to allow an operator to remotely control the plurality of speaker units, which provide ease of adjusting a plurality of parameters such as volume, speaker equalization, and sound delay at a desired time; to receive status and/or control information from the speaker unit; and to provide more flexibility in a speaker system network by allowing an operator to transmit a message to only selected speakers in a network, or in multiple networks or zones, rather than all speakers in a network or zone. Therefore, Orfield as modified does not need to make adjustments through potentiometers, which are on the sound masking unit located in the ceiling, it can be adjusted by utilizing the control unit which allow an operator to make adjustments remotely to only the selected sound masking units in the network, or in

multiple networks or zones, rather than all speakers in a network or zone. Orfield as modified discloses an equalizer component for receiving the incoherent signal output and generating an incoherent signal output with a predetermined contour (Anderson, Fig. 5), and an output amplifier for amplifying said contour incoherent signal output (Anderson, Fig. 5), and said programmable controller including a component for altering the contour of said incoherent signal output in response to a control command from said control unit (Anderson, Figs. 1-2 and 7).

23. Regarding Claim 21, Orfield as modified discloses said sound masking circuit comprises an equalizer component for receiving the incoherent signal output and generating an incoherent signal output with programmable spectral characteristics in response to a control command from said programmable controller (Anderson, Figs. 1-2, 5, and 7).

24. Claim 22 is essentially similar to Claims 12 and 14 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claims 12 and 14.

25. Regarding Claim 23, Orfield as modified discloses said communication interface comprises an address component for recognizing control signals intended for the sound masking unit associated with said address component, and said programmable controller including a component for decoding said control signals and applying one or more of said decoded signals for controlling operation of said sound masking circuit (Anderson, abstract; Figs. 1, 2, and 7; column 4, lines 12-57).

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26. Claim 24 is essentially similar to Claims 1-4, 20, and 23 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claims 1-4, 20, and 23 (Orfield, column 4, lines 42-50; Anderson, abstract; Figs. 1, 2, and 7; column 4, lines 12-57).

27. Claim 25 is essentially similar to Claim 4 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claim 4.

28. Claim 26 is essentially similar to Claim 17 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claim 17.

29. Claim 27 is essentially similar to Claim 18 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claim 18.

30. Claim 30 is essentially similar to Claim 1 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claim 1.

31. Claim 31 is essentially similar to Claim 3 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claim 3.

32. Claim 32 is essentially similar to Claim 4 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claim 4.

33. Claim 33 is essentially similar to Claim 5 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claim 5.

34. Claim 34 is essentially similar to Claim 6 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claim 6.

35. Claim 35 is essentially similar to Claim 7 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claim 7.

36. Claim 36 is essentially similar to Claim 8 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claim 8.

37. Claim 37 is essentially similar to Claim 9 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claim 9.

38. Claim 38 is essentially similar to Claim 10 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claim 10.

39. Claim 39 is essentially similar to Claim 11 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claim 11.

40. Claim 40 is essentially similar to Claim 12 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claim 12.

41. Claim 41 is essentially similar to Claim 17 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claim 17.

42. Claim 42 is essentially similar to Claim 18 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claim 18.

43. Claim 43 is essentially similar to Claim 1 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claim 1.

44. Regarding Claim 44, Orfield as modified discloses said communication interface comprises an input port, an output port and a switching component, said input port being coupled to said control unit or to the output port of another of said sound masking units, said communication interface including another output port, said other output port being coupled to said switching component (Anderson, Figs. 2 and 7; column 5, lines 1-11).

45. Regarding Claim 45, Orfield as modified discloses said sound masking unit includes a control component, said control component being coupled to said switching component, and said control component being responsive to at least one of said control signals for controlling characteristics of said sound masking output signal (Anderson, Figs. 2 and 7; column 4, lines 33-46; column 5, lines 1-11).

46. Claim 46 is essentially similar to Claims 1-4, 20, and 23-24 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claims 1-4, 20, and 23-24 (Orfield, column 4, lines 42-50; Anderson, abstract; Figs. 1, 2, and 7; column 4, lines 12-57).

47. Claim 47 is essentially similar to Claim 3 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claim 3.

48. Claim 48 is essentially similar to Claims 4 and 25 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claims 4 and 25.

49. Claim 49 is essentially similar to Claims 17 and 26 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claims 17 and 26.

50. Claim 50 is essentially similar to Claims 18 and 27 and is rejected for the reasons stated above apropos to Claims 18 and 27.

51. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4319088 to Orfield in view of U.S. Patent No. 5406634 to Anderson as applied to claims 1-12, 14-27, and 30-50 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4612665 to Inami et al (hereafter as Inami).

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52. Regarding Claim 13, Orfield as modified discloses a spectrum analyzer, but only generally; no specific hardware or software is taught. Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to seek known spectrum analyzer system. Inami for example, discloses a spectrum analyzer, wherein the spectrum analyzer receives signals from a microphone (column 2, line 57 to column 3, line 2). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to employ any known spectrum analyzer system. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Orfield as modified with the teaching of Inami to utilize a spectrum analyzer which receives input signals from a microphone (i.e. said component for receiving sound level readings comprises a microphone).

Response to Arguments

53. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-27 and 30-50 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

54. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

55. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Corey P. Chau whose telephone number is (571)272-7514. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm.

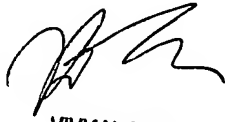
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chin Vivian can be reached on (571)272-7848. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

November 21, 2005

CPC



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